

## CLAIMS

*Surf* 1. A method for providing device information using a Fibre Channel network, comprising the operations of:

obtaining device information for a device coupled to a Fibre Channel based  
5 network;

constructing an address database having a device entry for the device, wherein the device entry includes a port target identifier and a logical unit identifier, and wherein the device entry associates the device information with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier;

10 receiving a request for the device information, wherein the request includes the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier; and

returning the device information associated with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

15 2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the device entry further associates an Arbitrated Loop Physical Address (AL\_PA) with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

20 3. A method as recited in claim 2, further comprising the operation of returning the AL\_PA associated with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier in response to the request.

4. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the request is in the form of a SCSI based Protocol Auto Configuration (PAC) command.

5. A method as recited in claim 4, wherein the request is in the form of a SCSI based Probe command.

6. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the operation of performing a lookup operation to obtain the device information associated with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier utilizing the address database.

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7. A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the device information includes a device type for the device.

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8. A system for providing device information using a Fibre Channel network,

comprising:

a Fibre Channel based network;

a device coupled to the Fibre Channel based network, the device having an associated Arbitrated Loop Physical Address (AL\_PA); and

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an address database having a device entry for the device, wherein the device entry includes a port target identifier and a logical unit identifier associated with the device, and wherein the device entry associates device information with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

9. A system as recited in claim 8, wherein the device entry further associates the AL\_PA with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

5 10. A system as recited in claim 8, further comprising a Fibre Channel driver having a Fibre Channel Common Hardware Interface (FCHIM).

11. A system as recited in claim 10, further comprising a SCSI based application in communication with the Fibre Channel driver.

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12. A system as recited in claim 11, wherein the SCSI based application passes a request for device information to the Fibre Channel driver, the request including the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

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13. A system as recited in claim 12, wherein the Fibre Channel driver returns the device information based on the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier using the address database.

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14. A computer program that provides device information using a Fibre

Channel network, comprising:

a code segment that obtains device information for a device coupled to a Fibre Channel based network;

a code segment that constructs an address database having a device entry for the device, wherein the device entry includes a port target identifier and a logical unit identifier, and wherein the device entry associates the device information with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier;

5       a code segment that receives a request for the device information, wherein the request includes the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier; and

          a code segment that returns the device information associated with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

10      15. A computer program as recited in claim 14, wherein the device entry further associates an Arbitrated Loop Physical Address (AL\_PA) with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

15      16. A computer program as recited in claim 15, further comprising a code segment that returns the AL\_PA associated with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

17. A computer program as recited in claim 14, wherein the request is in the form of a SCSI based Protocol Auto Configuration (PAC) command.

20      18. A computer program as recited in claim 14, wherein the request is in the form of a SCSI based Probe command.

19. A computer program as recited in claim 14, further comprising a code segment that utilizes the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier to lookup the device information associated with the port target identifier and the logical unit identifier.

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20. A computer program as recited in claim 19, wherein the device information includes a device type for the device.